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BULLETIN

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MACKINAC ISLAND CONFERENCE

Numerous inquiries have been received at the A. L. A. executive office regarding this year's conference at Mackinac Island. Sufficient progress has been made to make some announcements regarding the conference, but details of the trip and program will appear in the May A. L. A. Bulletin.

In addition to the usual interest librarians have in the A. L. A. conference, Mackinac Island has so many attractions in itself that indications are the attendance will be large.

The conference will open on Thursday, June 30th and will last through Wednesday, July 6th. In place of the usual address of welcome and other opening exercises, it is planned to make the first full day, July 1st, Michigan Day, when Michigan will act as the receiving host of the Association, will tell the story of Michigan, recite the legends which have attached themselves to Mackinac and set forth the library and educational successes and hopes of the state.

Details of the program will be announced later, but it may be said that one of the general sessions will be devoted to a book symposium, similar to that so much enjoyed at Minnetonka. The closing day at Mackinac Island may be a Canadian Day, when Canadian librarians and educators, taking this term in a broad

sense, will tell of their conditions and problems.

Headquarters during the conference will be at the Grand Hotel, one of the best, if not the best equipped hotel on the great lakes. The hotel is a large one, being 700 feet long, three stories high and with comfortable accommodations for 800 or more guests in the 435 rooms. There are 200 rooms with bath, single or en suite, and most of the rooms have running water in them. The hotel is near the lake in an attractive park. In addition to the main dining room there are several private dining rooms for smaller gatherings. The hotel auditorium seats 1,000 persons and other rooms, including a sun parlor and committee rooms are available for meetings of affiliated associations and sections.

The hotel managers promise an orchestra of sixteen pieces with music every afternoon and evening. Free transportation will be given to and from the dock.

The rates for members of the A. L. A. are: \$2.50 a day, one in room without bath, on the third floor; \$2.50 a day, two in room without bath, first and second floors; \$3.00 a day, two in room with bath, first and second floors; \$3.50 a day, one in room with bath. Fractional day rates will be granted so that any two meals

without lodging will be considered as one-half day only.

Mackinac Island is fortunately situated in regard to nearby points of interest. The Island itself is exceedingly attractive and doubtless one of the popular trips will be the eleven mile drive along the boulevard. The price of this 1½ hour drive is \$1.00 a passenger, which rate is fixed by the city.

A beautiful lake trip for an afternoon will be to the Snow Islands, several hundred in number. The cost of this trip is fifty cents.

To those who wish to visit the interesting government locks at Sault Ste. Marie, the new steamer "Chippewa" can be taken. This is an all day trip from Mackinac Island, and the round trip rate is \$2.00 exclusive of meals.

Efforts are being made to have an open air performance of Hiawatha given by a band of Indians. Last year such performances were given by the Ojibway Indians at Wayagamug on a beautiful little lake only 31 miles from Mackinac Island. Wayagamug is reached both by rail and boat.

A post-conference trip covering about eight or ten days will be arranged from Mackinac and definite details will be given in the next issue of the Bulletin. At present it is impossible to get any summer schedules for the region in Ontario north of the great lakes, which is most attractive for a visit. It is hoped to include a trip to The Soo, and east through the North Channel of Lake Huron, with a stay of several days either at Temagami Lake, Ont., a region recently opened to comfortable travel but still practically an unbroken wilderness; or, if that does not prove feasible, a visit to the beautiful Muskoka Lakes region, with a return via Toronto and Buffalo.

The Chairman of the Travel Committee, F. W. Faxon, 83 Francis St., Boston, Mass., will be glad to hear from those interested in such a trip, so as to suit the majority in planning details.

Application has been made for the usual fare and three-fifths rate on certifi-

cate plan for round trip to Mackinac and return. The regular summer excursion rates for the season of 1910 have not yet been announced but doubtless they will be in force. While these do not give so large a reduction from the regular fare as the fare and three-fifths rate, they permit more latitude for the return trip as they are good during the entire summer.

One way rates to Mackinac Island are:

From Boston, about \$22.

From New York, about \$21.

From Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, about \$20.

From Chicago, \$8.56.

The round trip summer tourist rate from Chicago will be \$11.80. Tickets at this rate will be on sale from June 1 with a return limit good until October 31.

It is expected that special accommodations and rates will be granted to parties of sufficient size to obtain these.

As the lake trip to Mackinac Island is delightful and as the vessels stop at numerous lake ports, it is likely that many librarians will prefer to go by water. Steamship rates with dates of sailing will be announced later.

The A. L. A. Travel Committee is composed of:

F. W. Faxon, 83 Francis St., Fenway, Boston, Mass., Chairman A. L. A., Travel Committee, in charge of New England party to conference, and Post-Conference excursion.

C. H. Brown, Public Library, 26 Brevoort Pl., Brooklyn, N. Y., in charge of party from New York and North Atlantic States.

J. F. Phelan, Public Library, Chicago, Ill., in charge of party from Chicago and Middle West.

Miss Katharine L. Swift, Bureau of University Travel, Trinity Pl., Boston, Mass.

Special parties travelling together will be planned, probably including part of the trip via the great lakes. These trips will be organized and handled by members of the Travel Committee in the various sections, and correspondence concerning them, and registration for them should be made with the member in charge.